

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ABU DH 00970 01 OF 02 142039Z

67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 /105 W

----- 068193

R 140850Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4196

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ABU DHABI 0970

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

USDOC FOR SIPS, CAGNE

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BTIO, TC

SUBJ: ABU DHABI WATER AND ELECTRICITY PLANS CHANGED AGAIN

REF: (A) 75 ABU DHABI 706 (B) 75 ABU DHABI 2278 (C) 75 ABU DHABI
2473 (D) 75 ABU DHABI A-75 (E) ABU DHABI 584 (F) ABU DHAB 802

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON HABIB AHMED, DIRECTOR GENERAL,
TECHNICAL, OF ABU DHABI DEPT OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY
ON MORNING OF APRIL 13 AND LEARNED OF RECENT CHANGES
IN DWE PLANS DETAILED BELOW. BASICALLY DWE PLANS ARE
BACK TO WHERE THEY WERE SIX MONTHS AGO PRIOR TO CHANGES
REPORTED IN REFS B, C, D, AND E. MOST RECENT CHANGE
WAS PRECIPITATED BY HABIB HIMSELF WHO SAID MEDDLING
BY SHAIKH ZAYED (WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR RELOCATION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ABU DH 00970 01 OF 02 142039Z

OF MAJOR POWER PLANT FROM UMM-AL-NAR SITE) WAS GOING

TO DELAY START-UP DATES AND RAISE CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND OPERATING COST REQUIREMENTS SO MUCH THAT HABIB'S REPUTATION WOULD BE RUINED. THOUGH NOT STATED IN SO MANY WORDS, CLEAR IMPLICATION WAS THAT HABIB HAD TOLD HIS BOSS SHAIKH SOROUR THAT UNLESS SOUROUR COULD GET SHAIKH ZAYED TO QUIT INTEFERING AND LET HABIB GET ON WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF HIS ORIGINAL PLANS, DWE WOULD HAVE TO FIND A NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL. ACCORDING TO HABIB, SHAIKH ZAYED ACQUIESCED TWO WEEKS AGO.

2. DETAILS OF CURRENT PLANS:

A. 240 MEGAWATT STEAM POWER PLANT ORIGINALLY ENVISIONED FOR UMM-AL-NAR AND LATER SHIFTED TO DUBIYYAH WILL NOW BE BUILT AT UMM-AL-NAR AS ORIGNALLY PLANNED. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR THIS PLANT HAVE ALREADY BEEN AWARDED AS REPORTED IN EMBASSY PROJECTS LIST.

B. MAQTAH POWER PLANT, REQUIRED TO MEET SUMMER '78 GENERATING CAPACITY SHORTFALL CAUSED BY DELAY OF 240 MEGAWATT STEAM POWER PLANT PROJECT, WILL OF COURSE STILL BE REQUIRED, BUT IT TOO WILL NOW BE BUILT AT UMM-AL-NAR (ADJACENT TO 240 MW STEAM PLANT), NOT AT MAQTAH. FORMER MAQTAH PLANT (WE WILL HENCEFORTH CALL IT THE UMM-AL-NAR-EAST PLANT) WILL USE GAS (NOT STEAM) TURBINES. SIZE AND NUMBER OF MACHINES WILL BE LEFT TO TENDERERS, BUT TOTAL CAPACITY WILL BE 115 TO 166 MEGAWATTS AND NUMBER OF TURBINES WILL NOT BE LESS THAN TWO NOR MORE THAN SIX. TOTAL DESALINATION CAPACITY OF UM-AL-NAR-EAST PLANT WILL BE 15 MILLION GALLONS (IMPERIAL) PER DAY. TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR UM-AL-NAR-EAST WILL BE READY BY JUNE 1, TENDER CLOSING DATE WILL BE APPROX AUG 1, AND ORDER WILL BE PLACED ABOUT SEPT 1. DWE ESTIMATE OF COST OF UMM-AL-NAR-EAST INCLUDING CIVIL WORKS IS \$125 MILLION.

C. NO 220 KV POWER LINES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

D. TENDERS FOR UMM-AL-NAR TO AL-AIN OVERHEAD POWER LINE WILL BE INVITED IN APPROX TWO MONTHS. ONLY FIRMS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ABU DH 00970 01 OF 02 142039Z

WHICH PREQUALIFIED LAST YEAR WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO BID. TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC IS ONLY U.S. FIRM WHICH PREQUALIFIED. THERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOME DESIGN CHANGES IN ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED 132KV LINE. HABIB SAID IT IS POSSIBLE DESIGN WILL BE MODIFIED TO ALLOW FOR FUTURE INCREASE OF TRANSMISSION VOLTAGE TO 220KV WITH A MINIMUM OF ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT.

3. UNDERGROUND 132KV CABLES FROM UM-AL-NAR TO ABU

DHABI TOWN WILL BE CONSTRUCTED APPROXIMATELY AS ENVISIONED SIX MONTHS AGO. INVITATION TO TENDER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN APPROX TWO MONTHS. EMBASSY BELIEVES TENDERS FOR UNDERGROUND CABLES WILL BE OPEN TO ALL - NOT JUST FIRMS WHICH EXPRESSED INTEREST LAST YEAR. SO FAR AS EMBASSY IS AWARE DYNELECTRON CORPORATION WAS ONLY U.S. FIRM PURSUING UNDERGROUND LINES.

F. WATER LINES FROM UMM-AL-NAR WEST PLANT SITE ARE INCLUDED IN EXISTING CONTRACT WITH HARBERT & HOWARD. LOGICAL ASSUMPTION IS THAT RELATIVELY SHORT LINES TO TIE UMM-AL-NAR-EAST POWER PLANT INTO SYSTEM WILL SIMPLY BE ADDED TO HARBERT-HOWARD WORK. WATER LINE TO FEED DESALINATED WATER FROM UMM-AL-NAR TO AL-AIN WILL BE CONSTRUCTED, BUT INVITATION TO TENDER IS STILL AT LEAST ONE YEAR AWAY. SINGLE LINE WILL PROBABLY BE ABOUT 24 INCH DIAMETER.

3. HABIB GAVE PLENTY OF EVIDENCE OF BEING VERY DISPLEASED WITH THE SERVICES OF DWE CONSULTANT LAHMEYER INTERNATIONAL (GERMAN) WHICH HE CLAIMED HAD MADE BAD DECISIONS AND TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF UMM-AL-NAR SITE RELOCATION AND NEED FOR RELATIVELY SMALL INTERIM POWER PLANT TO DESIGN SECOND MAJOR STEAM POWER STATION (MAQTAH) WHICH WAS NOT NEEDED AND COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN TIME. EMBOFF GOT STRONG IMPRESSION THAT THIS WOULD BE OPPOROANE MOMENT FOR U.S. ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS INTERESTED IN THE UAE TO CALL ON HABIB AND MAKE KNOWN THEIR CAPABILITIES AND WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ON SOME DWE CONSULTING. EMBOFF MENTIONED NAME OF CHARLES T. MAIN AS CAPABLE ELECTRICAL CONSULTANT WITH EXTENSIVE MID-EAST EXPERIENCE WHO IS INTERESTED IN FINDING WORK IN THE UAE. HABIB WAS FAMILIAR WITH NAME OF MAIN AND ADDED THAT HIS PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 ABU DH 00970 01 OF 02 142039Z

AMERICAN CONSULTANTS IN PAKISTAN, INCLUDING KULJIAN CORP OF PHILADELPHIA, GILBERT ASSOCIATES, INC OF READING, PA., AND LARAMORE, DOUGLASS, & POPHAM OF NEW YORK, HAD ALWAYS BEEN EXCELLENT. EACH OF THESE FIRMS IS LARGE ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO HANDLE DWE CONSULTING, AND EMBOFF BELIEVES THAT BEING FAVORABLY KNOWN TO HABIB MAY GIVE THEM SLIGHT HEADSTART IF DWE DECIDES TO REPLACE LAHMEYER. HABIB OBVIOUSLY HAS VERY FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARD AMERICAN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS IN GENERAL AND, THOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY CONFIRM IT, APPEARS TO BE CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF GETTING DIFFERENT CONSULTANT FOR AT LEAST SOME PORTIONS OF FUTURE DWE CONSULTING.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ABU DH 00970 02 OF 02 140925Z

67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 /105 W

----- 059864

R 140850Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 ABU DHABI 0970

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

USDOC FOR SIPS, CAGNE

ATHENS FOR RTDO

4. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) COMMERCE PLS BRING INFO IN PARAS 2A THROUGH E TO ATTENTION OF DYNAELECTRON CORPORATION, COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC, THE DONOVAN CONSTRUCTIN COMPANY, AND THE L.E. MEYERS COMPANY. (B) COMMERCE PLS BRING INFO IN PARA 3 TO ATTENTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS MENTIONED AS WELL AS ANY OTHERS USDOC CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE. (C) GENERAL ELECTRIC HAS BEEN VERY INTERESTED IN UMM-AL-NAR-EAST GAS TURBINE POWER PLANT. REQUEST MANAMA PASS INFORMATION IN PARA 2B TO GE REGIONAL REP G. BAGHDASSARIAN IN BAHRAIN. REQUEST COMMERCE PASS INFO IN PARA 2B TO OTHER U.S. GAS TURBINE MANUFACTURERS CAPABLE OF HANDLING THIS SIZE PROJECT.

5. EMBASSY REGRETS ALL THE CHANGES IN THESE PROJECTS,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ABU DH 00970 02 OF 02 140925Z

BUT THIS IS WAY OF LIFE OUT HERE. QUESTION ARISES
"WHAT ABOUT ALL THAT INDUSTRY THAT WAS SUPPOSEDLY
GOING TO POLLUTE THE SEAWATER INTAKES AT UMM-AL-NAR?"
OUR BEST INFORMATION IS THAT ALL INDUSTRIAL PLANS ARE
PROCEEDING AS BEFORE. HABIB POINTED OUT THAT HIS
SHOWDOWN WITH SHAIKH ZAYED TO HAVE THE PLANS OF SIX
MONTHS AGO REINSTATED HAVE SAVED ABU DHABI 1.5 BILLION
DIRHAMS (ABOUT \$400 MILLION) - A FIGURE WHICH IS
PROBABLY CONSERVATIVE. IT SEEMS TO US IF POLLUTED
SEAWATER BECOMES A PROBLEM FOR THE UMM-AL-NAR
DESALINATORS THAT \$400 MILLION WILL BUY A LOT OF POLLUTION

ABATEMENT EQUIPMENT.

6. NOTE THAT NONE OF THE CHANGES REPORTED THERE HAS
ANY EFFECT ON THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER
NORTHERN EMIRATES POWER PLANT TENDER INVITATION
REPORTED REF F.
STERNER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ABUDH00970
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760141-1139
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760465/aaaaccuw.tel
Line Count: 247
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ABU DHABI 706, 76 ABU DHABI 2278
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ABU DHABI WATER AND ELECTRICITY PLANS CHANGED AGAIN
TAGS: BEXP, BTIO, TC
To: COM MANAMA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006